



HI-Q

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC- Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

VE3FW - LARC call sign - honours the memory of the Founding President - P. J. "Pat" O'Shea

LARC SENATE

Keith Fiske	VE3JQ
Ray Forslund	VE3EDZ
Dave Kimpton	VE3AVS
Bill Klemacki	VE3AJ
Bill Roberts	VE3ARN

LARC EXECUTIVE 2002-2003

President:	Bob Hansen	VE3RVA 767-6924
Vice-Pres:	Mark Vaillant	VA3MVR 935-2205
Secretary:	Bernard Welmers	VA3BND 766-5726
Treasurer:	Teresa Rahmer	VE3TLL 577-0789
Directors:	Ed Baumann	VE3SNW 622-1216
	Fred Lesnick	VE3FAL 577-0789
	Brad Harris	VE3MXJ 767-0628
	Lindo Scalese	VE3NHX 344-8217
Past Pres:	Skip Wright	VE3BBS
Editor Hi-Q	Glen Wallace	VE3ICY 623-0135

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT MOUNT BALDY 147.060 (-600) FP
VE3TBR ST. JOSEPH'S 146.820 (-600) FP
442.075 (+5 MHz)
VE3BGA HILLCREST H.S. 145.450 (-600)
(IRLP NODE VA3LU 123.0 Hz)

PREZ SEZ.

The LARC February dinner meeting at the Slovak Legion was again a very successful event, with a wonderful meal and two excellent guest speakers: Ken Biddle and Terry Hrkac, who spoke on the construction of the new Regional Hospital. There was a good variety of door prizes for the members and guests to win. I would like to thank the many members who took part in putting this event together, a job well done. At the next meeting there will be a special presentation to a long-term member and I would like to see a fine turnout. I hope to see you all at the next meeting.

Your President, Bob VE3RVA.

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
Held in Slovak Legion
Thunder Bay, Ontario, February 22, 2003**

The meeting was called to order at 18:50, by the President VE3RVA, Bob Hansen with 41 members and guests in attendance.

A minute of Silence was held for Silent Keys VE3CH and VE3RUE.

We had a great Dinner.

Rest of the meeting was held at 20:00.

Minutes of the Last Meeting: The minutes of meeting held on January 9 were published in detail in the January issue of HI-Q and distributed to all members.

Motion: Moved by VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki and seconded by VE3ICY, that the minutes be accepted as distributed. **Carried**

Correspondence: None

Treasurer Report: VE3TLL, Teresa Rahmer

LARC - January 2003

Treasurer's Report

Starting Bank Balance		\$4,289.86
INFLOWS		
50/50 January	11.00	
Interest Income	0.03	
Student Fees	240.00	
Membership Dues	115.00	
Dinner Tickets	144.00	
TOTAL INFLOWS	\$ 510.03	
OUTFLOWS		
Administration	13.80	
Silent Key		
Donation	50.00	
Bank Charge	1.50	
Telephone		
Expense	44.32	
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	\$ 109.62	
OVERALL TOTAL		\$ 400.41
End Bank Balance		\$4,690.27

Motion: VE3TLL, Teresa Rahmer and seconded by Terry VE3DDZ that the Treasurer Report be accepted. **Carried**

Committee Reports:

Equipment: Still need a trip to the mountain to check on the repeater.

Classes: They are going well.

RAC Director of RAC North will be at the meeting in June.

Public Service: Sibley Ski Tour will be on March 1.

New Business:

Auditors Report Not all records were given (January to August were missing) The records that were present were accurate. A better method of record keeping is needed. Next audit is in September 2003.

Emergency Services Command Post: Things still going well, more donations have been coming in.

50/50 Draw: The winner of the 50/50 draw was VE3RVA, Bob Hansen.

Adjournment: Moved by VE3ZG, Michael Nawrocki

AUSTRALIAN AMATEURS VOLUNTEERING TO RUN FIRE FIGHTERS' RADIOS

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan 24, 2003--With extreme wildfire conditions expected over the long Australia Day holiday weekend January 25-27, Amateur Radio volunteers have been operating fire fighting service radio communication equipment. The Wireless Institute of Australia Victoria reports that hams have been pitching in over the past week. Fires have been raging in the rugged alpine country of northeastern Victoria for 18 days, and smoke has blanketed area hundreds of kilometers away, including metropolitan Melbourne.

"THERE is an ongoing requirement for the hams to use their skills and handle essential and logistic radio traffic," the WIA Victoria said. "Hundreds of firefighters are battling the outbreaks in the heat and dense smoke, which for most of the past four days greatly reduced visibility limiting the use of aerial water bombers."

THE WIA's emergency service arm, the Wireless Institute Civic Emergency Network (WICEN) has more than a dozen radio amateurs on duty at three center--Mt Beauty, Corryong and Ovens--operating radios and handling emergency traffic. WIA-Victoria President Jim Linton, VK3PC, said the forest lands fire fighting agency, the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE), called on WICEN-Victoria to provide operators to run its radio communication gear and free up personnel for other duties.

WIA reports that with no end to the fire emergency in sight, many residents of the stricken region have fled to safer areas as conditions worsen with high temperatures, single digit relative humidity and high winds. Celsius temperatures in the 40s, single-digit relative humidity and gusty winds have coupled with five years of drought conditions to set the scene for the worst summer fire season in 20 years, the WIA reports. In and around the capital

city of Canberra, bush fires earlier this month claimed at least four lives, caused many more injuries and destroyed some 400 homes. WICEN was not activated in the Canberra area, however.

WICEN State Coordinator, John Kerr, VK3BAF, at Mt Beauty reports that the amateurs' assignments operating the trunking radio system have at times involved 12 to 14-hour shifts. He says the WICEN-Victoria members have fitted in well and the DSE has expressed its appreciation for the volunteers' contributions. WICEN-Victoria has drawn up a list of volunteers to replace teams now in the field over the holiday weekend and to deploy elsewhere in Victoria if needed.

FOR more information, visit the WIA Victoria Web site:

<http://www.wiavic.org.au>

Article c/o Norm Bell VE3XRC

The Copper Country Radio Amateur Association

is once again printing the U.P Ham Directory.

They are available at the same low price of \$3.00 per copy. (Plus postage, if shipped) Advance orders are now being taken and a limited number are being printed, so order now, so you won't be disappointed.

You may submit your order via the www.ccraa.net

Just indicate:

1. Your name
2. Your call sign
3. The quantity you want

They will be available at the CCRAA's Swap-N-Shop in late April of this year.

Article c/o Dave Kimpton VE3AVS

Fred VE3FAL's DX logbook....

DATE	TIME(Z)	CALL	HIS RPT	MY RPT	FREQ	MODE	PWR	QTH,NAME,ETC.....
JAN 20/03	22:17	LW2DQA	579	529	28.015	CW	5W	BETO-ARGENTINA
JAN 21/03	14:23	YS3/I2JIN	559	579	21.006	CW	5W	ROBERT-EL SALVADOR
FEB 1/03	19:43	KR1O/QR P	5-8	5-5	18.157.5	USB	5W	JOHN-WASHINGTON,DC HF PACK
FEB 2/03	16:07	HR5/F2JD	589	529	18.073	CW	5W	GERARD-HONDURAS
FEB 5/03	22:52	D44AC	599	599	14.070.5	PSK	30W	OLEG (UA3TT)-CAPE VERDE ISLAND
FEB 11/03	19:14	OZ8ABE	589	559	18.079.2	CW	5W	BO-ZEALAND ISLAND DENMARK COAST
FEB 12/03	21:34	C6ALK	589	539	18.073.75	CW	5W	BRIAN-BAHAMA ISLANDS
FEB 12/03	21:52	V47DD	559	559	18.075.3	CW	5W	HENRY-ST.KITTS/NEVIS-WNWARD ISLANDS
FEB 12/03	23:33	PJ5/K3RG D	599	599	18.081	CW	5W	ST. EUSTATIUS ISLAND (NA 145)
FEB 13/03	13:45	V31FG	599	599	18.073	CW	5W	BELIZE
FEB 17/03	15:10	W2TQK	579	539	14.070.5	PSK	5W	WALT-TULLY NY 2.5 FEET OF SNOW
FEB 21/03	14:23	DL9CHR	559	539	28.012	CW	5W	CHRIS- NEAR MUNICH GERMANY
FEB 21/03	17:19	VP9/K9C C	599	579	28.024	CW	5W	GEORGE-BERMIUDA
FEB 23/03	21:30	PJ5/K3RG D	599	539	21.022	CW	500m w	LEE-ST.EUSTATIUS ISLAND (NA 145)
FEB 23/03	22:24	9Y4/DL6R AI	599	599	14.086	RTTY	40W	BERNHARD-TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
FEB 23/03	22:30	V25WXI	599	599	18.102	RTTY	40W	BILL-ANTIGUA ISLAND

The Freeze Your Buns off QRP Contest

On Feb 22, the Little Thunder QRP club members participated in the FYBO contest. This test is sponsored by the Arizona QRP club. The basic premise is to get out in February and set up a Field Day type of operation for a period of up to 8 hours.

The scoring is based on the temperature at the operating position. If it's above 65 degrees Fahrenheit each contact is worth one point. As the temp goes down each contact becomes worth more. Below 20 degrees Fahrenheit each QSO is worth 6 points. There are the usual bonus points for working the Arizona sponsoring station, using battery power and various states and provinces.

For a location we choose Birch Point Park at Boulevard Lake. There are lots of trees and open spaces to mess with antennas. We started set up at about 1500 UTC, our "big gun" was a 2 element wire beam for 10, 15 and 20 meters. On 40 we had about 125 feet of wire strung out in a southerly direction. For rigs we had a couple of new Yaesu FT 817's running sideband at 5 watts and Elecraft K1 for the cw ops running 3 watts.

If you remember the weather for Feb 22, we had no problem claiming the times 6 multiplier.....man it was cold! But on the plus side we had no worries about black flies and mosquitoes.

I must offer a special thanks to two people who made the day a lot more pleasant, Pat VA3PP and Rita. Pat came by and took our coffee order then went to the local coffee shop and bought us all around of coffee. Rita, my XYL arrived later with a big pot of hot chili that was also much appreciated and took off some of the chill.

Finally, how did we do? Well, we managed 7 QSO's, and with bonus points we made a score of 1681. Not a great showing necessarily but on the fun index it was worth a million points. And of course, there is the old saying "wait till next year".

If you're interested in getting more information on QRP, which is one of the fastest growing aspects of ham radio or in joining the Little Thunder QRP club drop me an email at the address below and the next time we have a meeting I'll get in touch with you.

Bill VE3XT

wunger@confederationc.on.ca



The ops: Phil, VE3AXL; Bill, VE3AJ; Bob, VE3BHN; Ed, VE3KRP; Bill VE3XT and Rob, VE3FLB.



The secret weapon, a 2 element 3 band wire yagi.

The Hamfest in Superior, WI is on May 3, 2003

The web site is <http://www.qsl.net/w0gkp/ann.htm> <<http://www.qsl.net/w0gkp/ann.htm>>
MNQRP Society will have some people there. Hope to see you all there
and for better weather this year. Please acknowledge.

.
73/72 Mert W0UFO MNQRP

Article c/o Bill Unger VE3XT

Internet Software that Everyone Needs

These few links and descriptions of computer software are important for everyone to use in this era of the Internet. All of the software that is mentioned in this document is 100% freeware for home use and is an excellent alternative to spending hundreds of dollars on equivalent software. I have people asking me over and over again what to run, so this is a beginning of what a cost-effective workstation runs on.

Virus Scanner and Removal with AVG

I can not emphasize the amount of virii that are out on the net and are continuously being shared via downloads and e-mail. AVG is a free and fully functional virus scanner is available at no cost to you. The only thing that is required is that you fill out a small form and they will email you back with your activation code. This program will self update, email scan and will also do scheduled scans of your drives if you require. This software is available at <http://www.grisoft.com>. I personally have been using this software on computers for well over a year, and has saved me many times.

Spyware / Adware Removal Tools

If you do not know what spyware and adware is, this could be a serious issue with decreasing the speed of your computer. I would like to recommend a program called "Spybot – Search & Destroy". This program is available for download at <http://patrick.kolla.de> and will automatically update itself as new spyware and other annoying patches are added. Some programs are classified as spyware, like Kazaa and Bonzai Buddy. These programs cause our computers to slow down, as they relay information back to corporations on where we 'surf' and look at while online. Kazaa should be replaced with a program mentioned later in this article. I personally run this program once every week on my computer. I recommend for new users of this program not to be alarmed of how many spyware/etc. entries are found in your computer, it is very common. At first, I recommend only removing the entries that are listed in red. They will automatically be checked off, the rest are not as crucial.

PopUp Killers

Everyone knows about the dreaded popup windows while surfing the net. Approximately 90% of new pop-ups are not detectable by the common large corporation software. I have found a very useful program known as Free Surfer. This program has been designed to be very non-intrusive to your computer, as it is configurable to load on bootup and appears as a single icon in most web browsers. This program is available at <http://www.emsproject.com/FS>.

Peer to Peer File Sharing with Kazaa Lite (or K++)

Most people that surf on the Internet know or have Kazaa installed on their computer for P2P (or Peer-to-Peer) file sharing. This program originally is loaded with spyware and should be removed from your computer and replaced with this. This is a streamlined and cleaned up version of Kazaa and does not relay information on what you do continuously back to the originators. Make sure prior to installing this software, you must have Kazaa removed, as it will cause problems. This is available from <http://www.kazaalite.com>.

If you have any questions or additions to add to this list, drop me a message to lbougie@tbaytel.net and I will do my best to help you out.

73's

Article c/o Len Bougie

Editor Says....Thank you for the excellent articles submitted this month, please keep them coming...Any interesting stuff please send to Glen Wallace, VE3ICY g.wallace3@shaw.ca

See you at the **meeting on March 13**